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# State of Utah

## Department of Commerce

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#### **MEDIA ALERT**

#### **Energy Efficiency Tips That Save Energy and Money**

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – As Utah's summer temperature continues to swelter, the demand for energy goes up and so does the electric bill. Cooling the home is the main contributor to high summer energy demand and leads to some electric bills being three to four times greater than other times of the year. To help make the home, office and "wallet" more comfortable, the Utah Committee of Consumer Services encourages consumers to pursue weatherization and other energy savings measures. Below are a few energy savings tips that will give consumers great benefits now during the cooling season—and some will even help during the heating season this winter:

1. Seal air leaks around doors and windows.
2. Clean air-conditioner filters and coils every month.
3. Use a programmable thermostat and set it 10 degrees higher when not at home.
4. During the day and early evening, try to reduce the use of heat-producing appliances such as the oven, range, dishwasher, washing machine and dryer.
5. Don't place lamps or televisions near air conditioning thermostat as the heat from the appliances may cause it to run longer than necessary.
6. Consider using Rocky Mountain Power's "Cool Keeper" program, which cycles your air conditioner on and off during peak demand, and receive a \$20 annual bill credit.
7. If you have single-pane windows, consider replacing them with new double-pane windows with high performance glass.
8. To reflect heat away from the house during the summer, install white window shades, drapes, or blinds and keep them closed during the day if windows face south or west.
9. For lights that remain on a lot, consider using compact fluorescent bulbs, which use about two-thirds less energy than regular bulbs.

Reducing energy consumption saves energy and money, especially during peak demand periods when power costs are highest. Several federal and state programs are available to help consumers weatherize their home. Some energy saving measures even qualify for tax credits. For more information about what you can do to save energy and lower your utility bill, please access the Committee's *Summer 2007 Consumer Newsletter* online at: <http://www.ccs.utah.gov/newsletters.html> or call (801) 530-6487.

*The Committee of Consumer Services represents the interests of small business owners, farmers and ranchers, and residential consumers of natural gas, electric, and telephone utilities in Utah. The Committee invites consumers to visit its Web site at [www.ccs.utah.gov](http://www.ccs.utah.gov).*

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